

HIV and Injection Drug Use PSA (:60)

About one in 10 HIV diagnoses in the U.S. are among people who inject drugs. Sharing needles, syringes, and other injection equipment puts people at high risk for getting HIV and other infections, including hepatitis.

Syringe Services Programs, or SSPs, are more than just needle exchanges. They help prevent HIV and other health problems among people who inject drugs by providing comprehensive services, such as help with stopping substance misuse; and testing and linkage to treatment for HIV, hepatitis B, and hepatitis C. SSPs also provide other services, such as education on what to do for an overdose. SSPs *don't* increase illegal drug use or crime, but they *do* reduce HIV risk. State and local health departments can work with their lawmakers and law enforcement to make SSPs more available.

To learn more, visit [cdc.gov/vitalsigns](https://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns).